REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 27, 2006 (hereinafter, the "Action"), Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration based on the following remarks. The Applicant submits this paper with a request for continued examination (RCE).

A review of the claims indicates that:

Claims 1-48 were previously pending.

Claims 1, 7, 15, 23, 33, and 39 have been amended.

Claims 1-48 are currently pending in this application.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims as presented.

U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 1-11, 15-29, 33-43, 47, and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the white paper entitled "Understanding Universal Plug and Play" (hereinafter "MS"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,636,211 to Newlin, et al. (hereinafter, "Newlin"), further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,771,317 to Ellis, et al. (hereinafter, "Ellis") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,912,696 to Buehl (hereinafter, "Buehl").

The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Turning first to **independent Claim 1**, the Applicant has amended this claim to clarify features of the method, solely to advance prosecution of this matter. A portion of this claim as amended is reproduced here for convenience:

"A method of tuning an information presentation appliance in an inter-appliance communication network, comprising:
receiving user input selecting at least one category of information
to be presented on the appliance, wherein at least one category comprises user-defined keywords and blocked keywords created and entered by the user to further specify the category selection and aid in identifying the category if there is no match to the category selection within the communication network;
receiving user input specifying at least one user-defined blocked keyword to further identify categories that are not to be presented on the appliance, and to specify information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance if the information contains the user-defined blocked keyword..."

The Applicant submits that the above revisions are supported at least by pages 22, 24, and 25, and Fig. 7 of the Applicant's Specification.

Turning to the cited art, the Applicant agrees with the Office's assessment that MS, Newlin, and Ellis "...don't specifically teach that the keywords can be user-defined and manually entered" (Action, page 4). The Office cites column 7, lines 1-28 of Buehl for this feature, stating "Buehl teaches a system...[that] further teaches blocking material based on a users own user defined keyword or keywords" (Action, page 4).

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office and, for the reasons discussed below, traverses the Office's rejections.

Buehl pertains generally to a multidimensional rating system for media content (Buehl, Title). More specifically, Buehl pertains to media assets encoded

with rating vectors, where the rating vectors are read by media players and compared to user entered preference vectors (Buehl, Abstract). The media asset is played or blocked based on the comparison of the preference vector to the rating vector (Buehl, Abstract).

Based on the Applicant's review of Buehl, the Applicant submits that Buehl does not teach or suggest "...receiving user input selecting at least one category of information to be presented on the appliance, wherein at least one category comprises user-defined keywords and blocked keywords created and entered by the user to further specify the category selection and aid in identifying the category if there is no match to the category name within the communication network," as in Applicant's claim 1. In particular, Buehl does not teach "keywords and blocked keywords that further specify the category selection and aid in identifying the category if there is no match to the category name," as in claim 1. Instead, Buehl discloses a user capability to input or "program" keywords into the system in order to block particular assets, but the preference keywords entered by the user *must match* a corresponding asset rating keyword in order for blocking to occur (Buehl, Col. 7, lines 1-4, 15-21, and 25-27).

In contrast to Buehl, the user-defined and entered keywords and blocked keywords of Applicant's claim 1 further specify the category selection made by the user and aid in identifying the selected category if there is *no match* to the category name within the communication network. As a result, "...the exact title of the category of information selected by the user does not need to be matched, since additional information, such as keywords, can be used to more accurately present the user's selections" (Applicant's Specification, page 22, line 22 to page 23, line 2).

Additionally, Buehl provides a keyword classification system for recognition of a keyword entered by a user. Preference keywords entered by a user are classified to be recognized by the system, which would "require the industry to further classify the asset content by subject...[and] for this...system to work, the industry would have to publish the keyword classifications so that the user could properly utilize the system" (Buehl, Col. 7, lines 29-34). This utilization of preexisting, published keywords in Buehl does not teach "user-defined keywords and blocked keywords created and entered by the user," as in Applicant's claim 1.

Further, Buehl does not teach or suggest "...receiving user input specifying at least one user-defined blocked keyword to further identify categories that are not to be presented on the appliance, and to specify information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance if the information contains the user-defined blocked keyword," as in Applicant's claim 1. For example, Buehl neither teaches nor suggests a method or means for a user to define and input keywords such as the names of family members, e.g., Mom, Dad, Mike, and Amy, or the names of friends, e.g., Sarah, Julie, Doug, and Sue (Applicant's Specification, page 27, example device description page of Table 4; Fig. 7). Instead, Buehl discloses a user ability to input preference keywords that block the playing of assets only if the preference keyword corresponds to, or matches, an asset rating keyword (Buehl, Col. 7, lines 1-4, 15-21, and 25-27). This does not teach or suggest "...receiving user input specifying at least one user-defined blocked keyword to further identify categories that are not to be presented on the appliance, and to specify information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance if the

information contains the user-defined blocked keyword," as in Applicant's claim 1.

Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, the combination of MS, Newlin, Ellis, and Buehl does not teach or suggest the subject matter as recited in claim 1. On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, Ellis, and Buehl do not support a §103 rejection of claim 1, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection of claim 1.

Claims 2-6 and 47 depend from claim 1 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 1 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 1, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Independent Claim 7

Turning to **independent Claim 7**, this claim recites a method of tuning an information presentation appliance. Only to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, the Applicant has revised claim 7 as indicated above to clarify further features of the recited subject matter.

The Applicant submits that the revisions to claim 7 are similar to those discussed regarding claim 1 above, and the comments directed to claim 1 above apply equally to claim 7. More specifically, the Applicant's comments regarding Buehl apply equally to claim 7.

On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, Ellis, and Buehl do not support a §103 rejection of claim 7. The Applicant thus requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection of claim 7.

Claims 8-11 depend from claim 7 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 7 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 7, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Independent Claim 15

Claim 15 recites an information presentation appliance. Only to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, the Applicant has revised claim 15 as indicated above to clarify further features of the recited subject matter.

The Applicant submits that the revisions to claim 15 are similar to the revisions made to claim 1 above. Thus, the comments directed above to claim 1 regarding Buehl apply equally to claim 15. More specifically, for at least the reasons discussed above, Buehl neither teaches nor suggests a "...a user input device for enabling a user to specify at least one category of information to be presented on the information presentation appliance, wherein at least one category comprises user-defined keywords and blocked keywords created and entered by the user to further specify the category selection and aid in identifying the category if there is no match to the category selection within the communication network, " as recited in claim 15. On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, Ellis, and

Buehl do not support a §103 rejection of claim 15, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claim 15.

Claims 16-22 depend from claim 15 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 15 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 15, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Independent Claim 23

Claim 23 recites an information presentation appliance. Only to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, the Applicant has revised claim 23 as indicated above. The Applicant submits that the revisions to claim 23 are similar to those discussed regarding claim 1 above, and that the comments directed to claim 1 above apply equally to claim 23.

On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, Ellis, and Buehl do not support a §103 rejection of claim 23, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection of claim 23.

Claims 24-29 depend from claim 23 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 23 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 23, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Independent Claim 33

Claim 33 recites a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for tuning an information presentation appliance. Only to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, the Applicant has revised claim 33 as indicated above. The Applicant submits that the revisions to claim 33 are similar to those discussed regarding claim 1, and that the comments directed to claim 1 above apply equally to claim 33.

On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, Ellis, and Buehl do not support a §103 rejection of claim 33, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection of claim 33.

Claims 34-38, and 48 depend from claim 33 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 33 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 33, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Independent Claim 39

Claim 39 recites a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for tuning an information presentation appliance. The Applicant submits that claim 39 recites features similar to those discussed above with claims 1 and 15, and that the comments directed to those claims apply equally to claim 39. On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, Ellis, and Buehl do not support a §103

rejection of claim 39, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection of claim 39.

Claims 40-43 depend from claim 39 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 39 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 39, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Further Rejections under U.S.C. §103

The Office rejects claims 12-14, 30-32, and 44-46 under § 103(a) as being obvious over MS, in view of Newlin, further in view of Ellis, further in view of Buehl, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,711,630 to Dubal et al. (hereinafter "Dubal"). The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for the reasons set forth below.

Dependent claims 12-14

Claims 12-14 depend from independent claim 1. Without conceding that Dubal provides the teaching for which it is cited regarding claims 12-14, the Applicant submits that Dubal fails to provide the teaching or suggestion necessary to support a §103 rejection of claim 1. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 1 apply equally to dependent claims 12-14. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 1, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Claims 30-32

Claims 30-32 depend from independent claim 23. Without conceding that Dubal provides the teaching for which it is cited regarding claims 30-32, the Applicant submits that Dubal fails to provide the teaching or suggestion necessary to support a §103 rejection of claim 23. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 23 apply equally to dependent claims 30-32. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 23 are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Claims 44-46

Claims 44-46 depend from independent claim 39. Without conceding that Dubal provides the teaching for which it is cited regarding claims 44-46, the Applicant submits that Dubal fails to provide the teaching or suggestion necessary to support a §103 rejection of claim 39. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 39 apply equally to dependent claims 44-46. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 39, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.
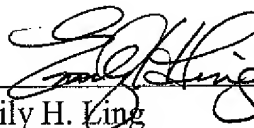
Conclusion

The Applicant requests favorable action on this application at the earliest convenience of the Office. Applicant respectfully requests that an early Notice of Allowability be issued. If there are any outstanding issues that would prevent favorable action on this application, Applicant respectfully requests that the undersigned attorney be contacted to schedule an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 2/27/07   By: _____

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